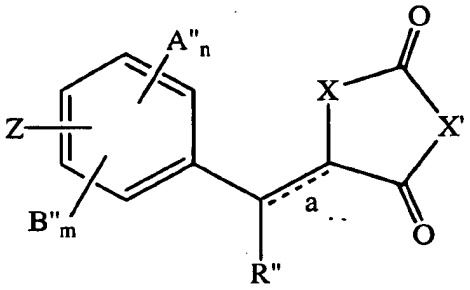
Amendments to the Claims:

The following claims will replace all prior versions of the claims in this application (in the unlikely event that no claims follow herein, the previously pending claims will remain):

1-60. (Cancelled).

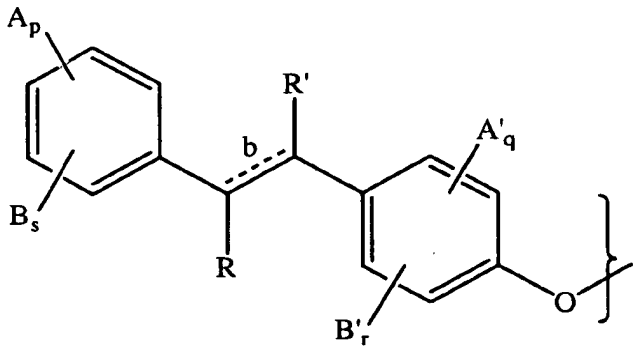
61. (Currently amended) A method of treating diabetes comprising the steps of administering to a subject suffering from a diabetic condition, a therapeutically effective amount of a compound represented by the following formula 1:



[1]

in a physiologically acceptable carrier;

wherein Z is



;

n, m, q and r independently represent integers from zero to 4 provided that n + m < 4 and q + r < 4; p and s independently represent integers from zero to 5 provided that p + s < 5; a and b represent double bonds which may be present or absent; when present, the double bonds may be in the E or Z configuration and, when absent, the resulting stereocenters may have the R- or S- configuration;

R and R' each independently represent a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl; linear or branched C_2-C_{20} alkenyl; -CO_2Z'; -CO_2R'''; -NH_2; -NHR'''; -NR_2'''; -OH; -OR'''; -$CONR_2''''$; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C_2-C_{20} alkenyl;

R'' independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl; linear or branched C_2-C_{20} alkenyl; -CO_2Z'; -CO_2R'''; -NH_2; -NHR'''; -NR_2'''; -OH; -OR'''; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C_2-C_{20} alkenyl;

R''' independently represents a linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl; or linear or branched C_2-C_{20} alkenyl; ~~or -$(CH_2)_x$-Ar, where x represents an integer from 1 to 6 and Ar represents aryl;~~

R'''' independently represents a hydrogen atom; optionally substituted C_1-C_{20} alkyl; or optionally substituted C_1-C_{20} alkoxy; ~~optionally substituted C_2-C_{20} alkenyl; optionally substituted C_6-C_{10} aryl; or NR_2'''' represents a cyclic moiety.;~~

Z' represents a hydrogen atom or a pharmaceutically acceptable counter-ion;

A, A' and A" each independently represent a hydrogen atom; C_1-C_{20} acylamino; C_1-C_{20} acyloxy; C_1-C_{20} alkanoyl; C_1-C_{20} alkoxycarbonyl; C_1-C_{20} alkoxy; C_1-C_{20} alkylamino; C_1-C_{20} alkylcarboxylamino; carboxyl; cyano; halo; or hydroxy;

B, B' and B" each independently represent; C_2-C_{20} alkenoyl; aroyl; or aralkanoyl; ~~nitro; optionally substituted, linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl; or optionally substituted, linear or branched C_2-C_{20} alkenyl;~~

or A and B jointly, A' and B' jointly, or A" and B" jointly, independently represent a methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy group; and

X and X' independently represent >NH, >NR''', -O-, or -S-.

62. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 61, wherein R' represents -CO_2R''', CO_2Z' or -$CONR_2''''$.

63. (Cancelled).

64. (Cancelled).

65. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 61, wherein X is -S- and X' is >NH.

66. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 62, wherein X is -S- and X' is >NH.

67. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 115, wherein X is -S- and X' is >NH.

68. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 117, wherein X is -S- and X' is >NH.

69. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 61, wherein the bond labeled "a" in formula I represents a single bond.

70. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 61, wherein at least one A group represents methoxy.

71. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 62, wherein at least two A groups represent a hydrogen atom.

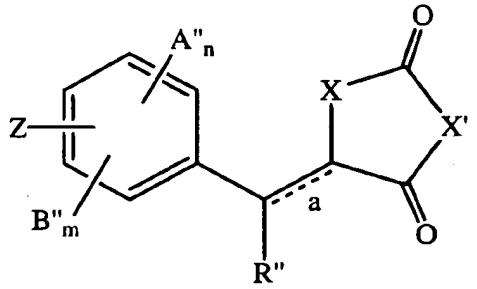
72. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 70, wherein at least two A groups represent a hydrogen atom.

73. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 116 wherein said A group represents methoxy.

74. (Previously presented) The method of claim 118 wherein said pharmaceutically acceptable counter ion is selected from sodium, potassium, calcium, magnesium, ammonium, tromethamine, or tetramethylammonium.

75. (Previously presented) The method of claim 70 wherein said pharmaceutically acceptable counter ion is selected from sodium, potassium, calcium, magnesium, ammonium, tromethamine, or tetramethylammonium.

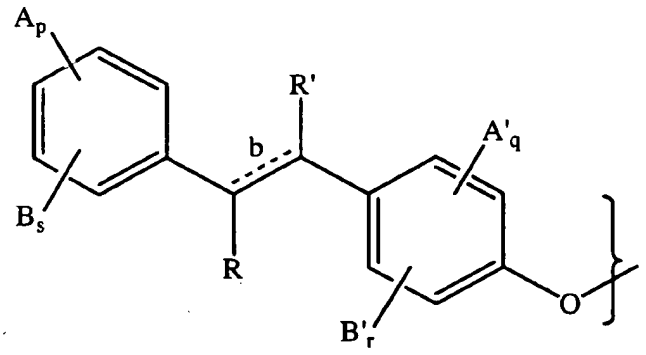
76. (Currently amended). A method of treating diabetes comprising the steps of administering to a subject suffering from a diabetic condition, a therapeutically effective amount of a compound represented by the following formula 1:



[1]

in a physiologically acceptable carrier;

wherein Z is



;

n, m, q and r independently represent integers from zero to 4 provided that n + m < 4 and q + r < 4; p and s independently represent integers from zero to 5 provided that p + s < 5; a and b represent double bonds which may be present or absent; when present, the double bonds may be in the E or Z configuration and, when absent, the resulting stereocenters may have the R- or S- configuration;

R and R' each independently represent a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl; linear or branched C_2-C_{20} alkenyl; $-CO_2Z'$; $-CO_2R'''$; $-NH_2$; $-NHR'''$; $-NR_2'''$; -OH; $-OR'''$; $-CONR_2''''$; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C_2-C_{20} alkenyl;

R" independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl; linear or branched C_2-C_{20} alkenyl; $-CO_2Z'$; $-CO_2R'''$; $-NH_2$; $-NHR'''$; $-NR_2'''$; -OH; $-OR'''$; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C_2-C_{20} alkenyl;

R''' independently represents a linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl; or linear or branched C_2-C_{20} alkenyl; ~~or $-(CH_2)_x$-Ar, where x represents an integer from 1 to 6 and Ar represents aryl;~~

R'''' independently represents a hydrogen atom; optionally substituted C_1-C_{20} alkyl; or optionally substituted C_1-C_{20} alkoxy; ~~optionally substituted C_2-C_{20} alkenyl; optionally substituted C_6-C_{10} aryl; or NR_2'''' represents a cyclic moiety.;~~

Z' represents a hydrogen atom or a pharmaceutically acceptable counter-ion;

A, and A' each independently represent a hydrogen atom; C_1-C_{20} acylamino; C_1-C_{20} acyloxy; C_1-C_{20} alkanoyl;C_1-C_{20} alkoxycarbonyl; C_1-C_{20} alkoxy; C_1-C_{20} alkylamino; C_1-C_{20} alkylcarboxylamino; carboxyl; cyano; halo; or hydroxy;

A" independently represent a hydrogen atom; C_1-C_{20} acylamino; C_1-C_{20} acyloxy; C_1-C_{20} alkanoyl;C_1-C_{20} alkoxycarbonyl; C_1-C_{20} alkylamino; C_1-C_{20} alkylcarboxylamino; carboxyl; cyano; or halo;

B, B' and B" each independently represent; C_2-C_{20} alkenoyl; aroyl; or aralkanoyl; ~~nitro; optionally substituted, linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl; or optionally substituted, linear or branched C_2-C_{20} alkenyl;~~

or A and B jointly, A' and B' jointly, or A" and B" jointly, independently represent a methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy group; and

X and X' independently represent >NH, >NR"', -O-, or -S-.

77. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 76, wherein R' represents $-CO_2R"'$, $-CO_2Z'$ or $-CONR_2''''$.

78. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 133 wherein R"' represents methyl.

79. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 137 wherein both R"" are the same and represent a hydrogen atom, methyl, or methoxy.

80. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 76, wherein X is –S- and X' is >NH.

81. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 77, wherein X is –S- and X' is >NH.

82. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 133, wherein X is –S- and X' is >NH.

83. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 135, wherein X is –S- and X' is >NH.

84. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 76, wherein the bond labeled "a" in formula I represents a single bond.

85. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 77, wherein at least one A group represents methoxy.

86. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 77, wherein at least two A groups represent a hydrogen atom.

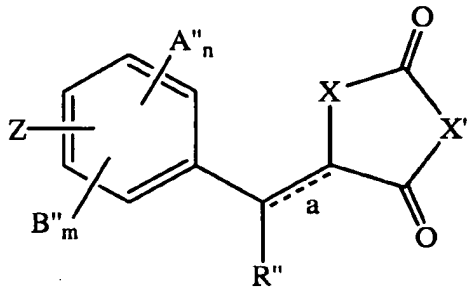
87. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 85, wherein at least two A groups represent a hydrogen atom.

88. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 134 wherein said A group represents methoxy.

89. (Previously presented) The method of claim 136 wherein said pharmaceutically acceptable counter ion is selected from sodium, potassium, calcium, magnesium, ammonium, tromethamine, or tetramethylammonium.

90. (Previously presented) The method of claim 85 wherein said pharmaceutically acceptable counter ion is selected from sodium, potassium, calcium, magnesium, ammonium, tromethamine, or tetramethylammonium.

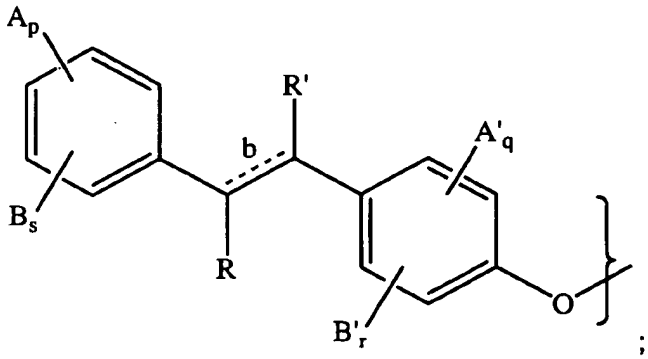
91. (Currently amended) A method of treating diabetes comprising the steps of administering to a subject suffering from a diabetic condition, a therapeutically effective amount of a compound represented by the following formula 1:



[1]

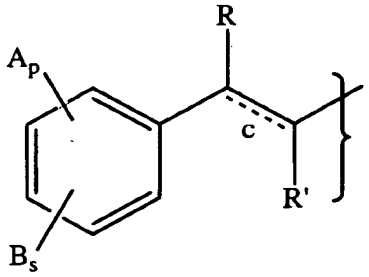
in a physiologically acceptable carrier;

wherein Z is



;

or



;

n, m, q and r independently represent integers from zero to 4 provided that n + m < 4 and q + r < 4; p and s independently represent integers from zero to 5 provided that p + s < 5; a, b and c represent double bonds which may be present or absent; when present, the double bonds may be in the E or Z configuration and, when absent, the resulting stereocenters may have the R- or S- configuration;

R independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl; linear or branched C_2-C_{20} alkenyl; -CO_2Z'; -CO_2R'''; -NH_2; -NHR'''; -NR_2'''; -OH; -OR'''; -$CONR_2''''$; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C_2-C_{20} alkenyl;

R' independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl; linear or branched C_2-C_{20} alkenyl; -CO_2Z'; -CO_2R'''; -NH_2; -NHR'''; -NR_2'''; -OR'''; -$CONR_2''''$; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C_2-C_{20} alkenyl;

R'' independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl; linear or branched C_2-C_{20} alkenyl; -CO_2Z'; -CO_2R'''; -NH_2; -NHR'''; -NR_2'''; -OH; -OR'''; halogen atom;

optionally substituted linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C_2-C_{20} alkenyl;

R''' independently represents a linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl; or linear or branched C_2-C_{20} alkenyl; ~~or $-(CH_2)_x$-Ar, where x represents an integer from 1 to 6 and Ar represents aryl;~~

R'''' independently represents a hydrogen atom; optionally substituted C_1-C_{20} alkyl; or optionally substituted C_1-C_{20} alkoxy; ~~optionally substituted C_2-C_{20} alkenyl; optionally substituted C_6-C_{10} aryl; or NR_2'''' represents a cyclic moiety.;~~

Z' represents a hydrogen atom or a pharmaceutically acceptable counter-ion;

A, A' and A" each independently represent a hydrogen atom; C_1-C_{20} acylamino; C_1-C_{20} acyloxy; C_1-C_{20} alkanoyl; C_1-C_{20} alkoxycarbonyl; C_1-C_{20} alkoxy; C_1-C_{20} alkylamino; C_1-C_{20} alkylcarboxylamino; carboxyl; cyano; halo; or hydroxy;

B, B' and B" each independently represent; C_2-C_{20} alkenoyl; aroyl; or aralkanoyl; ~~nitro; optionally substituted, linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl; or optionally substituted, linear or branched C_2-C_{20} alkenyl;~~

or A and B jointly, A' and B' jointly, or A" and B" jointly, independently represent a methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy group; and

X and X' independently represent >NH, >NR''', -O-, or -S-.

92. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 91, wherein R' represents $-CO_2R'''$, CO_2Z' or $-CONR_2''''$.

93. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 150 wherein R''' represents methyl.

94. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 154 wherein both R'''' are the same and represent a hydrogen atom, methyl, or methoxy.

95. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 91, wherein X is –S- and X' is >NH.

96. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 92, wherein X is –S- and X' is >NH.

97. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 150, wherein X is –S- and X' is >NH.

98. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 152, wherein X is –S- and X' is >NH.

99. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 92, wherein the bond labeled "a" represents a single bond.

100. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 92, wherein at least one A group represents methoxy.

101. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 92, wherein at least two A groups represent a hydrogen atom.

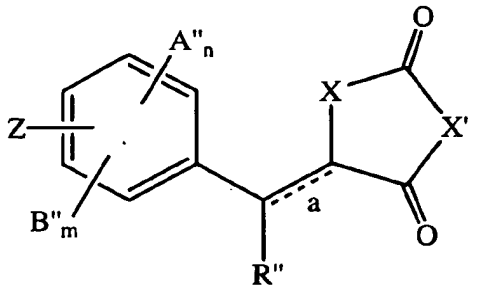
102. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 100, wherein at least two A groups represent a hydrogen atom.

103. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 151 wherein said A group represents methoxy.

104. (Previously presented) The method of claim 153 wherein said pharmaceutically acceptable counter ion is selected from sodium, potassium, calcium, magnesium, ammonium, tromethamine, or tetramethylammonium.

105. (Previously presented) The method of claim 100 wherein said pharmaceutically acceptable counter ion is selected from sodium, potassium, calcium, magnesium, ammonium, tromethamine, or tetramethylammonium.

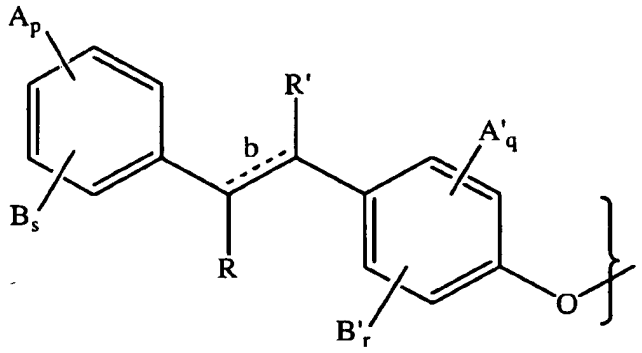
106. (Currently amended) A method of treating diabetes comprising the steps of administering to a subject suffering from a diabetic condition, a therapeutically effective amount of a compound represented by the following formula 1:



[1]

in a physiologically acceptable carrier;

wherein Z is



;

n, m, q and r independently represent integers from zero to 4 provided that n + m < 4 and q + r < 4; p and s independently represent integers from zero to 5 provided that p + s < 5; a and b represent double bonds which may be present or absent; when present, the double bonds may be in the E or Z configuration and, when absent, the resulting stereocenters may have the R- or S- configuration;

R and R' each independently represent a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl; linear or branched C_2-C_{20} alkenyl; -CO_2Z'; -CO_2R'''; -NH_2; -NHR'''; -NR_2'''; -OH; -OR'''; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C_2-C_{20} alkenyl;

R" independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl; linear or branched C_2-C_{20} alkenyl; -CO_2Z'; -CO_2R'"; -NH_2; -NHR'"; -NR_2'"; -OH; -OR'"; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C_2-C_{20} alkenyl;

R'" independently represents a linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl; or linear or branched C_2-C_{20} alkenyl; ~~or -$(CH_2)_x$-Ar, where x represents an integer from 1 to 6 and Ar represents aryl;~~

Z' represents a hydrogen atom or a pharmaceutically acceptable counter-ion;

A, A' and A" each independently represent a hydrogen atom; C_1-C_{20} acylamino; C_1-C_{20} acyloxy; C_1-C_{20} alkanoyl;C_1-C_{20} alkoxycarbonyl; C_1-C_{20} alkoxy; C_1-C_{20} alkylamino; C_1-C_{20} alkylcarboxylamino; carboxyl; cyano; halo; or hydroxy;

B, B' and B" each independently represent; C_2-C_{20} alkenoyl; aroyl; or aralkanoyl; ~~nitro; optionally substituted, linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl; or optionally substituted, linear or branched C_2-C_{20} alkenyl;~~

or A and B jointly, A' and B' jointly, or A" and B" jointly, independently represent a methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy group; and

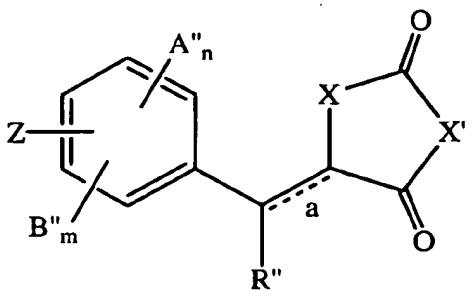
X and X' independently represent >NH, >NR'", -O-, or -S-.

107. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 106, wherein R' represents -CO_2R'" or CO_2Z'.

108. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 106, wherein X is –S- and X' is >NH.

109. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 107, wherein X is –S- and X' is >NH.

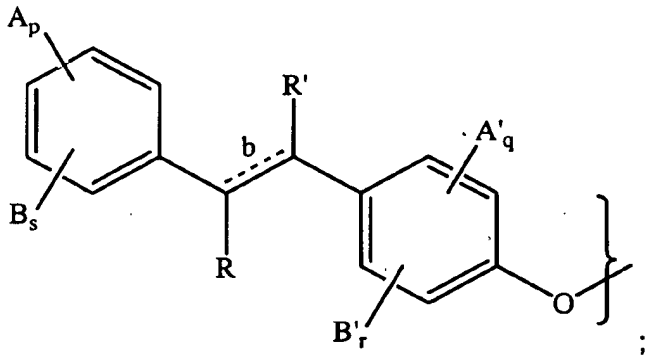
110. (Currently amended). A method of treating diabetes comprising the steps of administering to a subject suffering from a diabetic condition, a therapeutically effective amount of a compound represented by the following formula 1:



[1]

in a physiologically acceptable carrier;

wherein Z is



;

n, m, q and r independently represent integers from zero to 4 provided that n + m < 4 and q + r < 4; p and s independently represent integers from zero to 5 provided that p + s < 5; a and b represent double bonds which may be present or absent; when present, the double bonds may be in the E or Z configuration and, when absent, the resulting stereocenters may have the R- or S- configuration;

R and R' each independently represent a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl; linear or branched C_2-C_{20} alkenyl; -CO_2Z'; -CO_2R'''; -NH_2; -NHR'''; -NR_2'''; -OH; -OR'''; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C_2-C_{20} alkenyl;

R'' independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl; linear or branched C_2-C_{20} alkenyl; -CO_2Z'; -CO_2R'''; -NH_2; -NHR'''; -NR_2'''; -OH; -OR'''; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C_2-C_{20} alkenyl;

R''' independently represents a linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl; or linear or branched C_2-C_{20} alkenyl; ~~or -$(CH_2)_x$-Ar, where x represents an integer from 1 to 6 and Ar represents aryl;~~

Z' represents a hydrogen atom or a pharmaceutically acceptable counter-ion;

A, and A' each independently represent a hydrogen atom; C_1-C_{20} acylamino; C_1-C_{20} acyloxy; C_1-C_{20} alkanoyl;C_1-C_{20} alkoxycarbonyl; C_1-C_{20} alkoxy; C_1-C_{20} alkylamino; C_1-C_{20} alkylcarboxylamino; carboxyl; cyano; halo; or hydroxy;

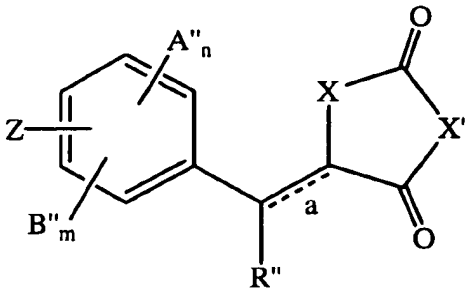
A'' independently represent a hydrogen atom; C_1-C_{20} acylamino; C_1-C_{20} acyloxy; C_1-C_{20} alkanoyl;C_1-C_{20} alkoxycarbonyl; C_1-C_{20} alkylamino; C_1-C_{20} alkylcarboxylamino; carboxyl; cyano; or halo;

B, B' and B'' each independently represent; C_2-C_{20} alkenoyl; aroyl; or aralkanoyl; ~~nitro; optionally substituted, linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl; or optionally substituted, linear or branched C_2-C_{20} alkenyl;~~

or A and B jointly, A' and B' jointly, or A'' and B'' jointly, independently represent a methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy group; and

X and X' independently represent >NH, >NR''', -O-, or -S-.

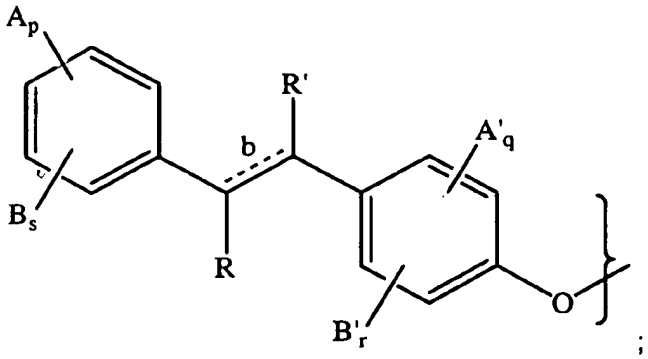
111. (Currently amended) A method of treating diabetes comprising the steps of administering to a subject suffering from a diabetic condition, a therapeutically effective amount of a compound represented by the following formula 1:



[1]

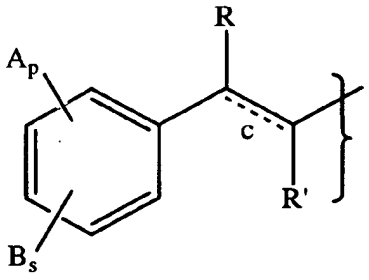
in a physiologically acceptable carrier;

wherein Z is



;

or



;

n, m, q and r independently represent integers from zero to 4 provided that n + m < 4 and q + r < 4; p and s independently represent integers from zero to 5 provided that p + s < 5; a, b and c represent double bonds which may be present or absent; when present, the double bonds may be in the E or Z configuration and, when absent, the resulting stereocenters may have the R- or S- configuration;

R independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl; linear or branched C_2-C_{20} alkenyl; -CO_2Z'; -CO_2R'''; -NH_2; -NHR'''; -NR_2'''; -OH; -OR''';

halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C_2-C_{20} alkenyl;

R' independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl; linear or branched C_2-C_{20} alkenyl; $-CO_2Z'$; $-CO_2R'''$; $-NH_2$; $-NHR'''$; $-NR_2'''$; $-OR'''$; $-CONR_2''''$; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C_2-C_{20} alkenyl;

R'' independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl; linear or branched C_2-C_{20} alkenyl; $-CO_2Z'$; $-CO_2R'''$; $-NH_2$; $-NHR'''$; $-NR_2'''$; -OH; $-OR'''$; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C_2-C_{20} alkenyl;

R''' independently represents a linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl; or linear or branched C_2-C_{20} alkenyl; ~~or $-(CH_2)_x$-Ar, where x represents an integer from 1 to 6 and Ar represents aryl;~~

Z' represents a hydrogen atom or a pharmaceutically acceptable counter-ion;

A, A' and A" each independently represent a hydrogen atom; C_1-C_{20} acylamino; C_1-C_{20} acyloxy; C_1-C_{20} alkanoyl;C_1-C_{20} alkoxycarbonyl; C_1-C_{20} alkoxy; C_1-C_{20} alkylamino; C_1-C_{20} alkylcarboxylamino; carboxyl; cyano; halo; or hydroxy;

B, B' and B" each independently represent; C_2-C_{20} alkenoyl; aroyl; or aralkanoyl; ~~nitro; optionally substituted, linear or branched C_1-C_{20} alkyl; or optionally substituted, linear or branched C_2-C_{20} alkenyl;~~

or A and B jointly, A' and B' jointly, or A" and B" jointly, independently represent a methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy group; and

X and X' independently represent >NH, >NR''', -O-, or -S-.

112. (Previously presented) A method of treating diabetes comprising the steps of administering to a subject suffering from a diabetic condition, a therapeutically effective

amount of 3-(3,5-dimethoxyphenyl)-2-{4-[4-(2,4-dioxothiazolidin-5-ylmethyl)-phenoxy]-phenyl}-acrylic acid in a physiologically acceptable carrier.

113. (Previously presented) A method of treating diabetes comprising the steps of administering to a subject suffering from a diabetic condition, a therapeutically effective amount of 3-(3,5-dimethoxy-phenyl)-2-{4-[4-(2,4-dioxo-thiazolidin-5-ylmethyl)-phenoxy]-phenyl}-acrylamide in a physiologically acceptable carrier.

114. (Previously presented) A method of treating diabetes comprising the steps of administering to a subject suffering from a diabetic condition, a therapeutically effective amount of 5-(4-(4-(1-carbomethoxy-2-(3,5-dimethoxy phenyl)-ethenyl)-phenoxy)-benzyl)-2,4-thiazolidinedione in a physiologically acceptable carrier.

115. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 62 wherein R' represents $-CO_2R'''$.

116. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 115 wherein R''' represents methyl.

117. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 62 wherein R' represents $-CO_2Z'$.

118. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 117 wherein Z' is a pharmaceutically acceptable counter ion.

119. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 62 wherein R' represents $-CONR_2''''$.

120. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 119 wherein at least one R'''' independently represents a hydrogen atom, methyl or methoxy.

121. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 119, wherein both R'''' are the same and represent a hydrogen atom, methyl, or methoxy.

122. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 119, wherein X is -S- and X' is >NH.

123. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 61 wherein the bond labeled "b" in formula I represents a double bond.

124. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 69 wherein the bond labeled "b" in formula I represents a double bond.

125. (Previously presented) A method of claim 67 wherein the bond labeled "b" in formula I represents a double bond and the bond labeled "a" in formula I represents a single bond.

126. (Previously presented) A method of claim 68 wherein the bond labeled "b" in formula I represents a double bond and the bond labeled "a" in formula I represents a single bond.

127. (Previously presented) A method of claim 119 wherein the bond labeled "b" in formula I represents a double bond and the bond labeled "a" in formula I represents a single bond.

128. (Previously presented) A method of claim 62 wherein at least two A groups represent methoxy.

129. (Previously presented) A method of claim 61 wherein A' and B' represent hydrogen atoms.

130. (Previously presented) A method of claim 61 wherein A" and B" represent hydrogen atoms.

131. (Previously presented) A method of claim 61 wherein A', A", B' and B" all represent hydrogen atoms.

132. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 125 wherein A', A", B' and B" all represent hydrogen atoms.

133. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 77 wherein R' represents $-CO_2R'''$.

134. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 133 wherein R''' represents methyl.

135. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 77 wherein R' represents $-CO_2Z'$.

136. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 135 wherein Z' is a pharmaceutically acceptable counter ion.

137. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 136 wherein R' represents $-CONR_2''''$.

138. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 137 wherein at least one R'''' independently represents a hydrogen atom, methyl or methoxy.

139. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 137, wherein both R'''' are the same and represent a hydrogen atom, methyl, or methoxy.

140. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 76 wherein the bond labeled "b" in formula I represents a double bond.

141. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 84 wherein the bond labeled "b" in formula I represents a double bond.

142. (Previously presented) A method of claim 133 wherein the bond labeled "b" in formula I represents a double bond and the bond labeled "a" in formula I represents a single bond.

143. (Previously presented) A method of claim 135 wherein the bond labeled "b" in formula I represents a double bond and the bond labeled "a" in formula I represents a single bond.

144. (Previously presented) A method of claim 137 wherein the bond labeled "b" in formula I represents a double bond and the bond labeled "a" in formula I represents a single bond.

145. (Previously presented) A method of claim 77 wherein at least two A groups represent methoxy.

146. (Previously presented) A method of claim 76 wherein A' and B' represent hydrogen atoms.

147. (Previously presented) A method of claim 76 wherein A" and B" represent hydrogen atoms.

148. (Previously presented) A method of claim 76 wherein A', A", B' and B" all represent hydrogen atoms.

149. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 133 wherein A', A", B' and B" all represent hydrogen atoms.

150. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 92 wherein R' represents $-CO_2R'''$.

151. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 150 wherein R''' represents methyl.

152. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 92 wherein R' represents $-CO_2Z'$.

153. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 152 wherein Z' is a pharmaceutically acceptable counter ion.

154. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 92 wherein R' represents $-CONR_2''''$.

155. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 154 wherein at least one R'''' independently represents a hydrogen atom, methyl or methoxy.

156. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 155 wherein both R'''' are the same and represent a hydrogen atom, methyl, or methoxy.

157. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 154, wherein X is –S- and X' is >NH.

158. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 91 wherein the bond labeled "b" in formula I represents a double bond.

159. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 99 wherein the bond labeled "b" in formula I represents a double bond.

160. (Previously presented) A method of claim 150 wherein the bond labeled "b" in formula I represents a double bond and the bond labeled "a" in formula I represents a single bond.

161. (Previously presented) A method of claim 152 wherein the bond labeled "b" in formula I represents a double bond and the bond labeled "a" in formula I represents a single bond.

162. (Previously presented) A method of claim 154 wherein the bond labeled "b" in formula I represents a double bond and the bond labeled "a" in formula I represents a single bond.

163. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 107 wherein R' represents $-CO_2R'''$.

164. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 163 wherein R''' represents methyl.

165. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 107 wherein R' represents $-CO_2Z'$.

166. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 165 wherein Z' is a pharmaceutically acceptable counter ion.

167. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 163, wherein X is –S- and X' is >NH.

168. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 165, wherein X is –S- and X' is >NH.

169. (Previously presented) A method of treating diabetes comprising the steps of administering to a subject suffering from a diabetic condition, a therapeutically effective amount of 3-(3,5-dimethoxy-phenyl)-2-{4-[4-(2,4-dioxo-thiazolidin-5ylmethyl)-phenoxy]-phenyl}-N,N-dimethyl-acrylamide, a physiologically acceptable carrier.

170. (Previously presented) A method of claim 62 wherein said compound is selected from the group consisting of
3-(3,5-dimethoxyphenyl)-2-{4-[4-(2,4-dioxo-thiazolidin-5-ylmethyl)-phenoxy]-phenyl}-acrylic acid,
3-(3,5-dimethoxy-phenyl)-2-{4-[4-(2,4-dioxo-thiazolidin-5-ylmethyl)-phenoxy]-phenyl}-acrylamide,
3-(3,5-dimethoxy-phenyl)-2-{4-[4-(2,4-dioxo-thiazolidin-5-ylmethyl)-phenoxy]-phenyl}-N,N-dimethyl-acrylamide,
3-(3,5-dimethoxy-phenyl)-2-{4-[4-(2,4-dioxo-thiazolidin-5-ylmethyl)-phenoxy]-phenyl}-N-methoxy,-N-methyl-acrylamide,
3-(3,5-dimethoxy-phenyl)-2-{4-[4-(2,4-dioxo-thiazolidin-5-ylidenemethyl)-phenoxy]-phenyl}-propionic acid methyl ester,
3-(3,5-dimethoxy-phenyl)-2-{4-[4-(2,4-dioxo-thiazolidin-5-ylidenemethyl)-phenoxy]-phenyl}-acrylic acid methyl ester,
3-(3,5-dimethoxy-phenyl)-2-{4-[4-(2,4-dioxo-thiazolidin-5-ylmethyl)-phenoxy]-phenyl}-propionic acid,

3-(3,5-dimethoxy-phenyl)-2-{4-[4-(2,4-dioxo-thiazolid in-5-ylidenemethyl)-phenoxy]-phenyl}-propionic acid,
3-(3,5-dimethoxy-phenyl)-2-{4-[4-(2,4-dioxo-thiazolidin-5-ylidenemethyl)-phenoxy]-phenyl}-acrylic acid, and
3-(3,5-dimethoxy-phenyl)-2-{4-[4-(2,4-dioxo-thiazolidin-5-ylmethyl)-phenoxy]-phenyl}-propionic acid methyl ester.